



**BEFORE THE ENERGY RESOURCES CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT
COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
1516 NINTH STREET, SACRAMENTO, CA 95814
1-800-822-6228 – WWW.ENERGY.CA.GOV**

**APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATION FOR THE
*CALICO SOLAR PROJECT AMENDMENT***

DOCKET No. 08-AFC-13C

NOTICE OF INFORMATIONAL HEARING AND PUBLIC SITE VISIT

On March 22, 2011, Calico Solar, LLC filed a Petition to Amend (Petition) with the California Energy Commission seeking to modify the Calico Solar Project approved and licensed by the Commission in December 2010. The approved Calico Solar Project (CSP) is located on 4,613 acres of land in an unincorporated area of San Bernardino County, California approximately 37 miles east of Barstow.

The CSP is designed as a concentrated solar thermal power plant facility with a generating capacity of 663.5 megawatts (MW). As approved, the CSP would produce power by solar collectors known as SunCatchers. Each SunCatcher consists of an approximately 38-foot diameter mirrored dish and a Stirling engine powered by hydrogen generated on site. CSP would deliver power to the Southern California Edison Pisgah Substation.

The Petition does not propose to change the size, boundary, or generating capacity of the CSP. It proposes a modification in the solar collector technology used on the site; specifically, to generate 100.5 MW of power using SunCatcher technology and 563 MW using single-axis tracker photovoltaic (PV) technology. The Petition proposes that both the SunCatchers and PV collectors will be fully integrated components of the power plant, operate from a single control room, use the same transmission interconnection system, access a common water system and road network, and depend upon the same construction and operation personnel.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Energy Commission will designate a Committee of two commissioners to conduct proceedings on the Petition. In the meantime, the Commission Siting Committee has scheduled a public Information Hearing and Site Visit to discuss the Petition to Amend as described below:

Wednesday, April 20, 2011
Site Visit begins (bus leaves) at 11:00 a.m.
Public Informational Hearing begins at 3:00 p.m.

Hampton Inn and Suites
Jack Rabbit Room
2710 Lenwood Road
Barstow, CA 92311
(Map Attached)

The Informational Hearing will be conducted by telephone and/or by computer via our "WebEx" web conferencing system. For details on how to participate, please see the "Participation through WebEx" directions attached.

Prior to the Informational Hearing, members of the public are invited to join the Committee on a tour of the proposed site. Calico Solar, LLC will provide transportation to and from the site. For reservations, leave a message with the Energy Commission Public Adviser's Office at (916) 654-4489 or 1-800-822-6228 or e-mail: **[publicadviser@energy.state.ca.us]**, giving your name, telephone number and the number of persons requesting a reservation. Please make your reservation prior to **Friday, April 15**, so that we can assure you a seat.

Background

On March 22, 2011, the Energy Commission began its review of the Petition. During the review period, Energy Commission staff will determine whether the proposed project complies with applicable laws related to public health and safety, environmental impacts, and engineering requirements. This Informational Hearing is sponsored by the Energy Commission to inform the public about the Petition and to invite public participation in the review process.

As the lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the Energy Commission is responsible for reviewing and ultimately approving or denying all applications to construct and operate thermal electric power plants, 50 MW and greater, in California. The Energy Commission facility certification process carefully examines public health and safety, environmental impacts and engineering aspects of proposed power plants and all related facilities such as electric transmission lines and natural gas and water pipelines.

Purpose of the Informational Hearing

This Informational Hearing provides an opportunity for members of the community in the project vicinity to obtain information, to offer comments and concerns, and to view the project site. Calico Solar, LLC will explain plans for implementing the modifications contained in the Petition to Amend and Energy Commission staff will explain the

administrative licensing process for this proposed project amendment and Staff's role in reviewing the Petition.

Description of Proposed Project Modifications

The Petition is proposing to modify the approved CSP technology to include a combination of PV technology and the approved SunCatcher technology to achieve the approved 663.5 MW electrical generation. Approximately 2,140 PV tracker blocks are proposed to produce 563 MW. SunCatchers would provide the remaining 100.5 MW.

The Petition proposes phasing implementation of the project modifications. Phase 1, which is primarily located south of the BNSF railroad and comprises approximately 2,144 acres, would include the following elements:

- Main access road.
- Relocated main services complex (including temporary laydown area).
- Relocated on-site substation and shortened transmission line to the existing Southern California Edison Pisgah Substation.
- Water well located north of the railroad, and watering to the main services complex (same source and well location, with a longer waterline crossing under the railroad).
- Solar field comprised of single-axis tracking PV modules producing up to 275 MW.

Phase 2, which is located north of the railroad and comprises 2,469 acres, would include the following elements:

- Bridge constructed over the railroad.
- Continuation of the main access road north of the railroad.
- Solar field, comprised of up to 288 MW of single-axis tracking PV modules and 100.5 MW of SunCatchers, to be located toward the center of Phase 2.
- Hydrogen generation, storage, and distribution system for the SunCatchers.

All other aspects of the approved CSP will remain the same under the Petition to Amend. The engineering and environmental details of the proposed amendments are contained in the Petition to Amend. Copies of the Petition to Amend are available at the local public agencies that are involved in the review process and at the following libraries: San Bernardino County Library, Barstow and Needles Branches; Victorville Public Library; Fresno County Library; San Diego Public Library; UCLA University Research Library; Humboldt Library; San Francisco Public Library; the Energy Commission's Library in Sacramento; and the California State Library in Sacramento.

Proposed Schedule and Issue Identification Report

To assist the parties and public in understanding the process, Staff shall file a proposed schedule for Petition review. Staff shall also file an Issue Identification Report summarizing the major issues. The proposed schedule and Staff's report shall be filed

no later than **5:00 pm on April 14, 2011**. Calico Solar, LLC shall file its response, if any, no later than **noon on April 18, 2011**.

Public Adviser and Public Participation

The Energy Commission's Public Adviser's Office is available to assist the public in participating in the Petition review process. For those individuals who require general information on how to participate, please contact the Public Adviser at (916) 654-4489 or 1-800-822-6228 or e-mail: **[publicadviser@energy.state.ca.us]**.

If you have a disability and need assistance to participate in this event, contact Lourdes Quiroz at 916-654-5146 or e-mail: **[lquiroz@energy.state.ca.us]**.

Information

Questions of a legal or procedural nature should be directed to Kourtney Vaccaro, the Hearing Adviser, at (916) 654-4328 or e-mail: **[kvaccaro@energy.state.ca.us]**.

Technical questions concerning the project should be addressed to Craig Hoffman, the Staff Project Manager, at (916) 654-4781 or e-mail: **[choffman@energy.state.ca.us]**.

Media inquiries should be directed to the Office of Media and Public Communications at (916) 654-4989 or e-mail: **[mediaoffice@energy.state.ca.us]**.

Information concerning the status of the project, as well as notices and other relevant documents may be viewed on the Energy Commission's Internet web page at: **[<http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/calicosolar/compliance/index.html>]**

Dated: April 6, 2011, at Sacramento, California.



KAREN DOUGLAS
Commissioner and Presiding Member
Siting Committee



ROBERT B. WEISENMILLER
Chair and Associate Member
Siting Committee

PARTICIPATION IN THE CALICO INFORMATIONAL HEARING
THROUGH WEBEX
THE ENERGY COMMISSION'S ON-LINE MEETING SERVICE

1. COMPUTER LOG-ON WITH A DIRECT PHONE NUMBER:

- Please go to <https://energy.webex.com> and enter the meeting number unique to the specific hearing date:

➤ 4/20/11 - meeting number: **920 739 662**

When prompted, enter your information and the meeting password: **calico#1**

After you login, a prompt will appear on-screen for you to provide your phone number. In the **Number box**, type your area code and phone number and click OK. **You will receive a call back on your phone for the audio of the meeting.** International callers can use the "Country/Region" button to help make their connection.

2. COMPUTER LOG-ON FOR CALLERS WITH AN EXTENSION PHONE NUMBER, ETC:

- Please go to <https://energy.webex.com> and enter the unique meeting number.
- 4/20/11 - meeting number: **920 739 662**

When prompted, enter your information and the meeting password: **calico#1**

After you login, a prompt will ask for your phone number. Click "CANCEL."

- Instead call 1-866-469-3239 (toll-free in the U.S. and Canada). When prompted, enter the meeting number above and your unique Attendee ID number which is listed in the top left area of your screen after you login.

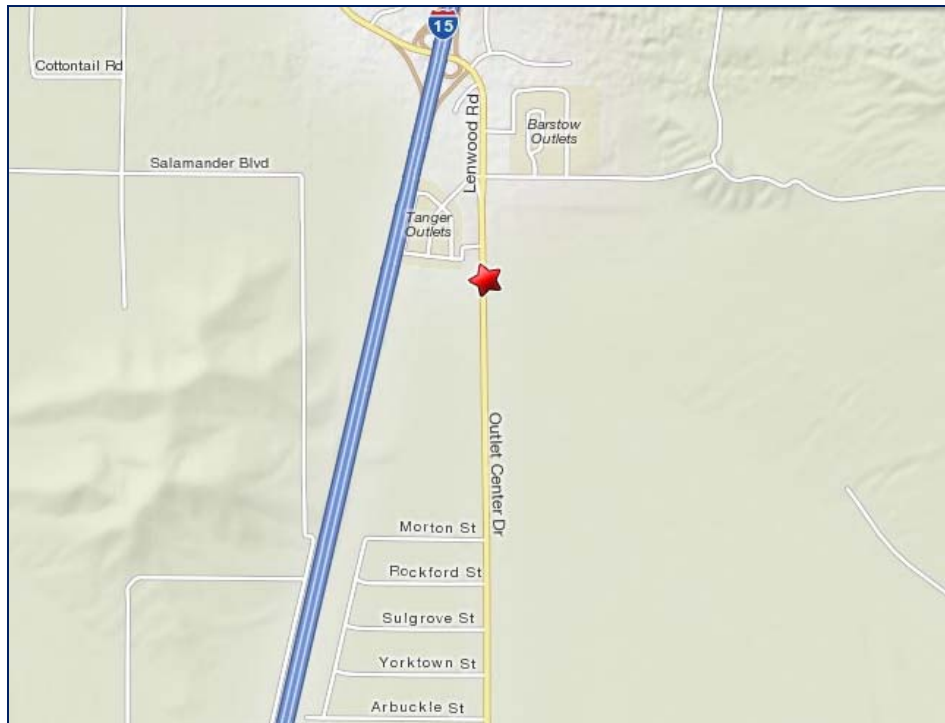
3. TELEPHONE ONLY (NO COMPUTER ACCESS):

- Call 1-866-469-3239 (toll-free in the U.S. and Canada) and when prompted enter the meeting number:
- 4/20/11 - meeting number: **920 739 662**

If you have difficulty joining the meeting, please call the WebEx Technical Support number at 1-866-229-3239. To see if your computer is compatible, visit [<http://support.webex.com/support/system-requirements.html>].

Please be aware that the meeting's WebEx audio and on-screen activity may be recorded.

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